

REMARKS

This is in response to Office Action dated February 26, 2004. Claims 1 -20 remain in the application. All the independent claims have been amended. Some of the dependent claims were also amended to conform them to the independent claims.

Claims 1, 10, 16 and 19 were objected to for informalities. These informalities have been corrected.

The present application describes peripheral devices for a computer, a computer system including peripheral devices, and a method for operating a computer system having peripheral devices. The invention is directed towards the configuration address for the peripheral devices, permitting the peripheral devices to be compatible with different applications. The present application describes how advantage is taken of the power level control circuit found in many peripheral devices. The circuit enables the peripheral device to operate in two modes, a normal (powered-up) mode and a standby mode. The software selects one of the modes using a general purpose output unit.

As described in the application, when the power is turned on from off, a reset is applied, and a peripheral device switches from the standby mode to the normal operating mode (powered-up mode). The device now responds to all possible configuration addresses. To select a specific address for a particular peripheral device, the software application writes a pre-selected data pattern at the desired configuration address on the address bus.

In operation, when a computer system starts up, that is power is turned on or reset occurs, each device is put in the standby mode by the software by programming, for example, the appropriate general purpose output pins of the general purpose output unit. Then, the peripheral devices may be selected one at a time by placing them in the normal operating mode. In this way, the address written to each device becomes the

configuration address for the device and no other device, since the other devices are still in the standby mode or have been configured.

The claims were rejected, for the most part, on Michael (5,787,306). In essence, the Examiner has treated the on-off conditions for a peripheral, as described in Michael, as being the standby and normal operating modes described in the application. For the rejection of claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103, the Examiner has relied upon the applicant's admitted prior art and Amin.

Applicant has amended all the independent claims to make it clear that the peripheral device have a standby mode and a normal operating mode, and these are distinct from the on-off condition such as described in Michael. For instance, for claim 1 the power level control circuit is for controlling the power in a standby mode or normal operating mode after power is applied to the device. Similarly, claim 8 includes language that the power level control circuit causes the device to be "in a standby mode or normal operation mode once power is applied to the device." Similar amendments have been made to claims 12 and 16.

Consequently, the claims clearly indicate that the standby mode and normal operating mode are different from the on-off condition, and that power is applied before the peripheral device can be in either the standby or normal operating mode.

With these amendments, applicant submits that the claims do not read on Michael. Moreover, since none of the references discuss or suggest combining the standby/ normal operating mode in connection with configuration addresses, any rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 is inappropriate.

Applicant submits the case in condition for allowance, and an early allowance would be appreciated.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account
No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
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